Title: Regarding employees' agitation in Shastri Bhavan on 19 December, 2000 which led to unwarrented detainment of some MPs and wastage of their valuable time.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI (VISAKHAPATNAM): Sir, this issue concerns the importance of the Members and the House. Yesterday, I, along with some other hon. Members, went to Shastri Bhavan in the Lunch Hour. I was shocked as I was detained there for about two-and-a-half hours. All the doors were closed and nobody was allowed to go out till 3.45 p.m. I lost the most valuable time of the House being locked there. This is a very serious issue.

I came to know that the employees were agitating outside and they had formed a human chain out there. I do not know why the employees were agitating because nobody was allowed to go out. The employees had created a sort of terrorism yesterday. If there is any dispute between the Government and the

*Not Recorded.

employees, it should be sorted out immediately because then only peace will be restored there. Something has happened in other offices also. But nobody here knows what has happened.

The Government should answer this. It is a disgrace on the part of the government to allow the employees to form a human chain and in turn not allowing anybody to go out. Why is the Government sitting like this? What is wrong in this? Why were we detained like this? The hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is here, he should reply to this. We would like to know why this agitation was there.

I want him to say something. I was detained virtually for two-and-a-half hours. The hon. Minister should say something on this matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

13.09 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.

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